

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated June 30, 2004 in which the Examiner objected to the disclosure, rejected claims 1-5 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and stated that claims 1-5 and 9-15 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

As indicated above, minor informalities in the specification have been corrected. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner approves the correction and withdraws the objection to the disclosure.

As indicated above, claims 1-5 and 9-15 have been amended in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. The amendments do not narrow the literal scope of the claims. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 1-5 and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Since withdrawn claim 16 depends from an allowed claim, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner allows the claim to issue.

The prior art of record, which is not relied upon, is acknowledged. The references taken singularly or in combination do not anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact, by telephone, the

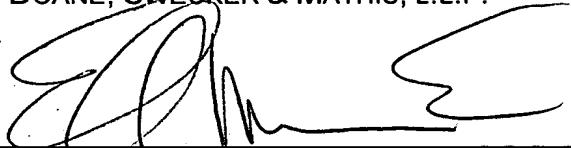
applicant's undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

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